National Weather Service 3rd Quarter Review 2001

September 28, 2001

Action Item Checklist

Milestones & Accomplishments

Management Challenges, Issues, Problems

Reports

Compliance

F.F.C

Diversity

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Completed 22 of 26 Milestones

Deliver Better Products and Services

- ✓ Establish the NWS "Tsunami Ready" Program
- Refurbish 6 NOAA Weather Radio stations in existing network
- ✓ Host Hurricane Preparedness Tour at selected coastal WFOs
- Review and modify existing process for creating and implementing new climate and weather products
- ✓ Test prototype for transmitting aviation weather warnings to critical airport personnel via pagers





"Tsunami Ready"

• 1st Tsunami Ready Community: Ocean Shores, WA

• Promotes tsunami hazard readiness among Federal, state and local emergency management agencies, the public, and the NWS tsunami

warning system.









Hurricane Preparedness Tour

- May 7-10
- Nearly 1,700 people toured NOAA P-3 "Hurricane Hunter"
- Visited: Portsmouth,
 New Hampshire;
 Dover, Delaware;
 Washington, D.C.;
 Florence, South Carolina.



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Deliver Better Products and Services

✓ Implement 24 hour operation of the Aviation Weather Center's Collaborative Convective Forecast Product



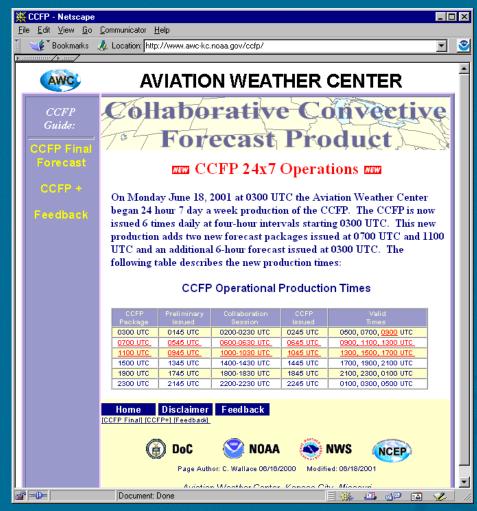
- ✓ Develop a marine outreach partnership program with NOS
- ✓ Develop implementation plan to install 7 buoys in Alaska per Congressional direction



- ✓ Implement procedures to improve NWS fire weather incident response system
- ✓ Develop, publish, and distribute a preparedness brochure/web information on inland flood effects of hurricanes along the East Coast

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/er/hq/flooding/brochure.htm

Collaborative Convective Forecast Product



http://www.awc-kc.noaa.gov/ccfp/

7 Buoys in Alaska

Alaska Buoy Network Expansion Implementation Plan completed in June

• First Alaska Earmark buoy deployed on 7/11/01

• Buoy 2 deployed 8/04/01

• Anticipated deployment:

- Buoys 3,4,5 by early Summer 2002
- Buoys 6,7 by early Summer 2003



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Capitalize on Scientific and Technological Advances

- ✓ Complete NWS Science and Technology Infusion Plan Version 1.0
- ✓ Make Ensemble model forecasts (regional and global) available in real time to NWS forecasters
- ✓Incorporate sea surface wind data from NASA's QuikSCAT into data assimilation and forecast system
- ✓ Begin design and coding of AWIPS 5.2 Software
- ✓ Complete science review of the NCEP Eta model performance during recent weather event.

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/ost/eta.pdf

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Exercise Global Leadership

✓ Publish a Caribbean Website for current weather, forecasts and warnings as well as digital radar data



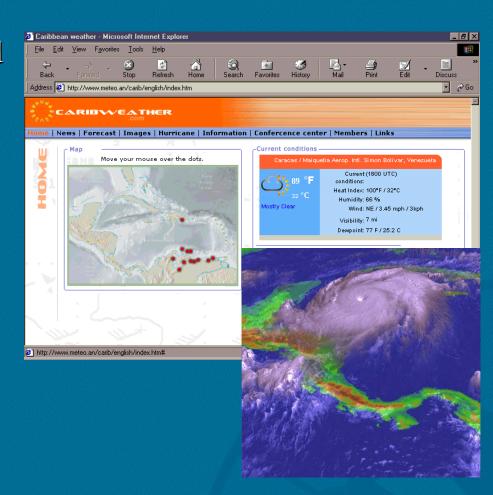
✓ Conduct a hurricane awareness tour to Caribbean countries and Mexico



- ✓ Conduct a regional training course in "Applications of Climate Data" for 12 international students
- ✓ Establish and conduct the first training course for international and domestic commercial pilots and air traffic controllers for volcanic ash avoidance

Caribweather Web Site

- Contracts now being negotiated by Curacao for vendors to host the Web page
- May 14-25: Two-week
 Training for Web Masters
 course in Curacao for 15
 students throughout Caribbean
- Prototype: http://www.meteo.an/carib



Caribbean Hurricane Awareness Tour (CHAT)

- Tremendous success in outreach and public education
- Nearly 7,000 people toured NOAA P-3 "Hurricane Hunter" plane
- Stops included: Villahermosa, Cancun, Mexico; Kingston, Jamaica; Aguadilla, Puerto Rico; St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands



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Change the NWS Organizational Culture

- ✓ Complete team training to 200 employees in 10 NWS field Offices
- ✓ Develop NWS exit survey as a means of gathering information on how to make the NWS a better place to work.
- ✓ Recruit 35 students for DOC's Post Secondary Internship and NOAA Faculty/Student Intern Research Program
- ✓ Recruit 4 students for the High School/High Tech and the Workforce Recruitment Program
- Host NWS EEO Conference

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Manage NWS Resources

- Complete installation of NCEP's network security enhancements
- ✓ Develop the new NWS Financial Management System

3rd Quarter Accomplishments

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Products/Outreach

- President Bush Proclaims Hurricane Awareness Week
- Lightning Public Awareness Campaign Launched: "Lightning Kills, Play it Safe"



- Pilot "Rip Current" Forecast Initiated on the Eastern Shore
- Operational Heat Stress Assessment System (OHSAS) Test Begins in New Orleans

Organizational/Programmatic

• Caribou, Maine WFO Construction Underway

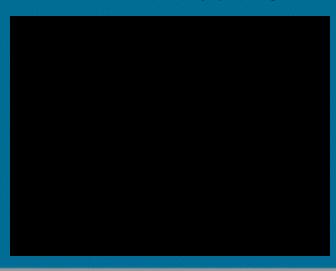


- NWS Hosted Korean Delegation
- Conducted Real-Time Forecast Experiment Aimed at Improving the Prediction of Thunderstorms
- National Convective Weather Forecast Product (NCWF) Approved

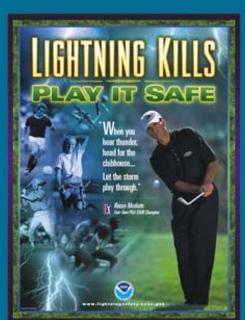


Lightning Awareness Week

- Lightning Public Awareness Campaign Launched: "Lightning Kills, Play it Safe"
 - Lower lightning death and injury rates in the United States
 - Elevate awareness of the risk of being struck by lightning
 - In 2000, 51 people fatally struck by lightning, compared to 37 flood fatalities, 29 tornado deaths.
 - NWS and Professional Golfing Association Tour champions Rocco Mediate and Vijay Singh are teaming up to promote lightning safety.







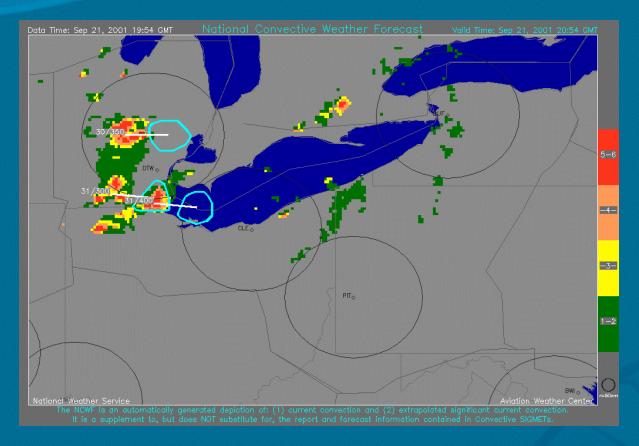
Caribou, Maine WFO

- Construction contract awarded in May.
- June 1: Congressman John E. Baldacci, representatives of Senators Snow and Collins, the Mayor of Caribou, and Eastern Region Director Dean Gulezian made presentations at the ground breaking ceremony.





National Convective Weather Forecast Product



• The NCWF is an automatically generated depiction of: (1) current convection and (2) extrapolated significant current convection. It is supplement to, but does not substitute for, the report and forecast information contained in convective SIGMETs

3rd Quarter Accomplishments

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Forecasting

- 2001 Hurricane Outlook
- Advanced Lead Times for Tornados and Thunderstorms
 - Siren, Wisconsin tornado
 - Denver, Colorado severe thunderstorm
 - Benson, Minnesota tornado
- AHPS Outlook for Severe Flooding in Upper Midwest
- 3 Hour Lead Time for Costly Puerto Rico Flood
- Advanced Lead Time for Flooding in 3 Alaska Communities







Hurricane Season 2001 Outlook

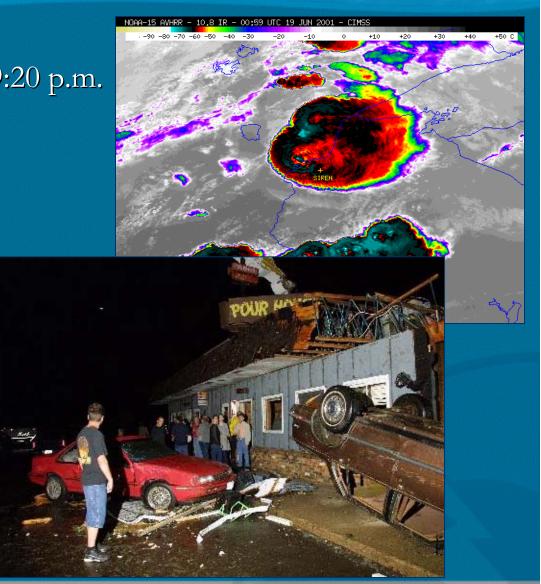
- May 21: Experts predicted 2001 Atlantic hurricane season to have normal levels of activity
 - 8-11 tropical storms
 - 5-8 of those storms reach hurricane strength
 - 2-3 hurricanes classified as major
- Outlook updated August 9
- Season to date:
 - 8 tropical storms
 - 4 hurricanes
 - 2 hurricanes classified as major



www.noaa.gov

Siren, Wisconsin Tornado

- Occurred Monday, June 18, 9:20 p.m. EDT
- 34 minute lead time before tornado touched down
- 49 minutes before tornado moved through Siren
- Damage
 - 3 deaths,
 - 8 serious injuries;
 - At least 100 homes/businesses destroyed or seriously damaged



Upper Midwest Flooding

- April 6-22
- March 23rd AHPS 90 day outlook indicated 90% probability of major flooding at Wahpeton on Red River
- 5 inches of rain combined with melting snow
- Worst flooding:
 - Red River
 - Minnesota River
 - James and Big Sioux Rivers





3 Hour Lead Time for Puerto Rico Flood

- May 6
- Flash Flood Warning provided
 3 hours lead time
- Flooding moderate severe; confined to southwest Puerto Rico
- Estimated damage: excess \$50 million.
- Broad squall line produced heavy rain across southwestern Puerto Rico



Congressional, GAO, and IG Reports

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Congressional Reports

Cooperative Observers Network

GAO Reports

- USAID
- U.S. Assistance to Micronesia and Marshall Islands

OIG Reports

- WFO Reports
- NWS Weather Observer Program
- National Data Buoy Center
- NOAA Weather Radio

Open NWS Environmental / Safety Audit Findings – 3rd Quarter FY 2001

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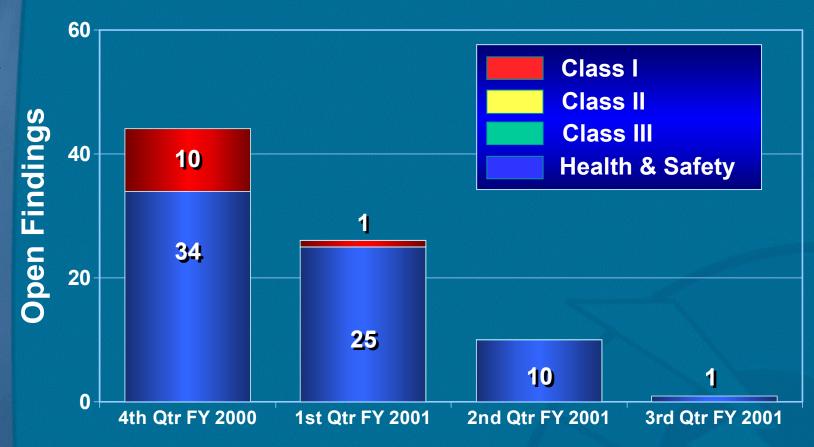
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EEO Accomplishments

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- Hired 24 Women, Minorities, and People with Disabilities (WMDs) in 3rd Quarter
- Three NWS Employees Received Technology All-Star Awards
- 1st Native Alaskan promoted to Meteorological Technician
- On-Line Section 508 Accessibility Tutorial Developed
- Participated in 2001 Oklahoma Weather Center's Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Program

Minority Serving Institutions (MSI)

- WFO Charleston, WV Helped Develop First Meteorology Course for WV State University
- Jackson State University Sponsors 4 Undergraduate Meteorology Students
- 5 Students began work at 3 of NCEP's Centers as part of Goddard Space Flight Center Howard University Fellowship in Atmospheric Science (GoHFAS)

Diversity Accomplishments

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Upcoming



- Spanish interview during Thunderstorm Safety and Lightning Awareness Week reaches 150,000
- OHD begins Telecommuting Program Pilot
- Myers Briggs Training conducted at all Western Region, Alaska Region offices
- All MICs & HICs received diversity & leadership training at national MIC/HIC Conference
- Established NWS Diversity Network email list server
- Four NWS employees received Spectrum awards
- Two NWS employees received Best Practices awards
- Storm Prediction Center Hosts Web Chat with GLOBE Students
- Cheyenne Young Women In Science Program Makes Its Mark in Washington



Young Women in Science Program

- Cheyenne Young Women In Science Program
- Expenses-paid tour of NOAA, Silver Spring and Washington, D.C., in June.
- Visit to White House and meeting with Vice President Dick Cheney (also from Wyoming).





Upcoming Activities (4th Qtr. and Beyond)

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- Conduct 2nd Volcanic Ash Avoidance Workshop
- Award contracts for Evansville radar, and to improve NWR voice transmissions
- Chairman Wolf, Deputy Secretary Bodman visit to Sterling WFO August 8th
- Issue Revised 2001 Hurricane Outlook
- August 29th meeting at National Academy of Sciences to discuss "Public/Private Partnerships in the Provision of Weather and Climate Services"
- July 26th COMET Executive Board Meeting in Boulder, Colorado
- September NEMA meeting in Bozeman, Montana
- NOAA Science Advisory Board Meeting in Tucson, Arizona November 6-8
- Complete installation of Backup Site for AWIPS Master Ground Station (MGS)
- August Corporate Board Meeting in Boulder, Colorado
- AA Kelly and Nicaraguan officials inaugurate the River Forecasting Center in Managua, August 21-24

Management Issues/Challenges

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- Location for Weather and Climate Supercomputer
- Pacific Island Compact Funding
- FY 2002 and FY 2003 Budgets